

DRINKING WATER WARNING

PREGNANT WOMEN AND YOUNG CHILDREN SHOULD NOT DRINK THE WATER

Sampling results received on _____[date] showed that **chlorine dioxide** levels of _____mg/L [level]. This is above the standard or maximum residual disinfectant level (MRDL) of 0.8 milligrams per liter (mg/L). Chlorine dioxide is used for disinfection, but too much of it over a short period of time may harm the development of children, infants and fetuses.

What should I do?

- **DO NOT USE THIS WATER IF YOU ARE PREGNANT OR GIVE IT TO YOUNG CHILDREN.** Bottled water should be used until further notice. ***Some infants and young children who drink water containing chlorine dioxide in excess of the MRDL could experience nervous system effects. Similar effects may occur to fetuses of pregnant women who drink water containing chloride dioxide in excess of the MRDL. Some people may experience anemia.***

The chlorine dioxide violations reported today are the result of exceedences at the treatment facility only, not within the distribution system which delivers water to consumers. Continued compliance with chlorine dioxide levels within the distribution system minimizes the potential risk of these violations to consumers. There are no obvious symptoms, but chlorine dioxide can affect the development of the nervous system.

- Water, juice, and formula for young children and for pregnant women should not be prepared with tap water.
- Adults who are not pregnant and older children can drink the tap water because their nervous systems are already developed. However, if you have specific health concerns, you may wish to consult your doctor.

What happened? What is being done?

Chlorine dioxide is used in small amounts every day to kill bacteria and other organisms that may be in your drinking water. A problem occurred with our chlorine dioxide generator, and too much chlorine dioxide was released. [Describe corrective action and when you expect to return to compliance.]

Please share this information with all the other people who drink this water, especially those who may not have received this notice directly (for example, people in apartments, nursing homes, schools, and businesses). You can do this by posting this notice in a public place or distributing copies by hand or mail.

For more information, please contact:

Responsible Person	System Name	System Address (Street)
Phone Number	System PWSID #	System Address (City, State, Zip)

Violation Awareness Date: _____

Date Notice Distributed: _____ Method of Distribution: _____

Public Notification Certification:

The public water system named above hereby affirms that public notification has been provided to its consumer in accordance with all delivery, content, format, and deadline requirements specified in 15A NCAC 18C .1523.

Owner/Operator: _____
(Signature) (Print Name) (Date)

Instructions for Chlorine Dioxide MRDL Notice – Tier 2 Violation

Since exceeding chlorine dioxide maximum residual disinfection levels (MRDLs) at the entry point to the distribution system on two consecutive daily samples is a **Tier 2** violation, you must provide public notice to persons served as soon as practical but within 30 days after you learn of the violation (C.F.R. 141.203(b)). You must issue a repeat notice every three months for as long as the violation persists.

Community systems **must** use one of the following methods (C.F.R. 141.203(c)):

- Hand or direct delivery
- Mail, as a separate notice or included with the bill

Non-community systems **must** use one of the following methods (C.F.R. 141.203(c)):

- Posting in conspicuous locations
- Hand delivery
- Mail

In addition, both community and non-community systems must use *another* method reasonably calculated to reach others **IF** they would not be reached by the first method (C.F.R. 141.203(c)). Such methods could include newspapers, e-mail, or delivery to community organizations.

You must also perform the following:

- If you mail, post, or hand deliver, print your notice on letterhead, if available.
- Notify new billing customers or units prior to or at the time their service begins.
- Provide multi-lingual notifications if 30% of the residents served are non-English speaking.

The notice on the reverse is appropriate for hand delivery or mail. If you modify the notice, you must still include the 10 required elements listed in C.F.R. 141.205(a), and the standard language (including the health effects language) in ***bold italics*** must not be changed. This language is mandatory (C.F.R. 141.205(d)).

Corrective Action

In your notice, describe correction actions you are taking. Do not use overly technical terminology when describing treatment methods. Listed below are some steps commonly taken by water systems with chemical or radiological violations. Use one or more of the following actions, if appropriate, or develop your own:

- We are working with [local/state agency] to evaluate the water supply and researching options to correct the problem. These options may include treating the water to remove chlorine dioxide or connecting to [system]'s water supply.
- We have stopped using the contaminated well. We have increased pumping from other wells, and we are investigating drilling a new well.
- We will increase the frequency at which we test the water for chlorine dioxide.
- We have since taken samples at this location and had them tested. They show that we meet the standards.

Repeat Notices

You must issue a repeat notice every three months for as long as the violation persists. If this is an ongoing violation and/or you fluctuate above and below the MCL, you should give the history behind the violation, including the source of contamination, if known. List the date of the initial detection, as well as how levels have changed over time. If levels are changing as a result of treatment, you can indicate this.

After Issuing the Notice (C.F.R. 141.31(d))

Within **10 days** after completing the initial public notification, the Public Water Supply Section **MUST** receive a copy of the notice you distributed to your customers with your signature and date on the Public Notification Certification (located at the bottom of the notice) indicating that you have fully complied with all the public notice requirements. **Mail your notice/certification to the Public Water Supply Section, Compliance Services Branch, ATTN: Public Notification Rule Manager, 1634 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699-1634.** Retain a copy of these documents for your files.

It is a good idea to inform your consumers when the violation is resolved.
(10/2004)